

Abstract of the Disclosure

Disclosed is a method and composition for treating tumors or infectious diseases, wherein the composition includes CD40 binding molecules together with CTL-activating peptides, *e.g.*, tumor antigens. Such composition is useful for enhancing the anti-tumor effect of a peptide tumor vaccine, or for otherwise activating CTLs so that the activated CTLs can act against tumorous or infected cells. The CD40 binding molecules can include antibody molecules, as well as homologues, analogues and modified or derived forms thereof, including immunoglobulin fragments like Fab, (Fab')₂ and Fv, as well as other molecules including peptides, oligonucleotides, peptidomimetics and organic compounds which bind to CD40 and activate the CTL response.